

House Resolution 2119

By: Representatives Wilkinson of the 52nd, Lindsey of the 54th, Peake of the 137th, O'Neal of the 146th, Keen of the 179th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the life of Charlie Yates and proclaiming May 30, 2008, as
2 "Charlie Yates Day" in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Charlie Yates was born on September 9, 1913, was a noted amateur golfer,
4 businessman, and civic leader in Atlanta, beloved for his generosity of spirit, grace, humor,
5 humility, and integrity; and

6 WHEREAS, Charlie Yates was a link to Atlanta's vast golf history who later shepherded the
7 city's arts community into the future and was once heralded by *Life* magazine as owning "the
8 best grin in golf"; and

9 WHEREAS, a participant in the city's history for much of the 20th century, it is appropriate
10 that he be remembered first for his smile and a benevolent demeanor that underscored his
11 life; and

12 WHEREAS, he was mentored by Bobby Jones and played with Mr. Jones in his final round
13 in 1948 at East Lake Golf Club; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Yates was a national college champion while at Georgia Tech in 1934 and
15 a two-time Walker Cup competitor who seized the international limelight at the 1938 British
16 Amateur at Royal Troon; and

17 WHEREAS, he became a fixture at the Masters Tournament in Augusta, Georgia, playing
18 in 11 of the early championships and winning low amateur five times; and

19 WHEREAS, for 50 years, he served on the press committee, was a constant presence in the
20 media quarters, and to many who returned to the Masters year after year, was a Masters
21 tradition in himself; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1973, he accepted Mayor Ivan Allen's suggestion that he retire from business
2 at age 60 and head up the Woodruff Arts Center, since he had already served as president of
3 the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and helped to recruit Robert Shaw as its conductor, making
4 him the perfect person for the job, and he became instrumental in getting Atlanta's city
5 leaders to see how Atlanta's strategy should include the development of world class arts and
6 organizations; and

7 WHEREAS, he served his country admirably and was a loving husband to his wife of 61
8 years, Dorothy Malone, and a devoted father and grandfather to his four children and five
9 grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
11 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; his loyalty, competency, reliability, and
12 enthusiasm distinguished his superlative service to this state; and his ready smile and his
13 friendship were counted by everyone as special gifts to be forever treasured; and

14 WHEREAS, the inaugural Charlie Yates Memorial Junior-Senior Foursomes Golf
15 Championship will be held on May 30, 2008; and

16 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
17 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body recognize Charlie Yates; honor him for his many decades of
20 efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated service to the citizens of this state; proclaim May
21 30, 2008, as "Charlie Yates Day" in Georgia; and extend to his family their most sincere
22 condolences for their loss.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Charlie Yates.